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Dated: January 31, 2006

Signature: Jeanne M. Brashear  
(Jeanne M. Brashear)

Docket No.: 06005/37170  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Michael D. Apel et al.

Application No.: 09/871,115

Confirmation No.: 9797

Filed: May 31, 2001

Art Unit: 2182

For: Input/Output Device with Configuration, Fault  
Isolation and Redundant Fault Assist  
Functionally

Examiner: T. Q. Nguyen

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)**

MS Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b)(4), submitted herewith for consideration by the examiner are the documents identified on the accompanying Form PTO-SB/08, which may be considered material to the examination of the above-identified patent application. A copy of the non-U.S. patent document is enclosed.

This information disclosure statement is being submitted after the filing of a request for continued examination (under 37 CFR § 1.114), but before the mailing date of a first office action. Accordingly no certification or fee is due.

It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of the application, and that the documents be made of record therein and appear among those cited on the cover page of any patent issuing therefrom.

An early and favorable action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Dated: January 31, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By *Jeanne M. Brashear*  
Jeanne M. Brashear

Registration No.: 56,301  
MARSHALL, GERSTEIN & BORUN LLP  
233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 6300  
Sears Tower  
Chicago, Illinois 60606-6357  
(312) 474-6300  
Agent for Applicant



PTO/SB/08a/b (07-05)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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<b>Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO</b>  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (Use as many sheets as necessary)				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
				Application Number	09/871,115-Conf. #9797
				Filing Date	May 31, 2001
				First Named Inventor	Michael D. Apel
				Art Unit	2182
				Examiner Name	T. Q. Nguyen
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	06005/37170

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		US-5,202,822	04-13-1993	McLaughlin et al.	
		US-5,777,874	07-07-1998	Flood et al.	
		US-5,895,434	04-20-1999	Fennel et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. \* CITE NO.: Those application(s) which are marked with an single asterisk (\*) next to the Cite No. are not supplied (under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(iii)) because that application was filed after June 30, 2003 or is available in the IFW. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>
		Examination Report under Sections 17 and 18(3) issued in GB0507937.1 application by the United Kingdom Patent Office on May 23, 2005.	

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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